Beautiful Rooms Where the Meals of Millionaires are Cooked.

AN IDEAL FRENCH RITCHEN-THE VANDERBILT RITCHENS-THEIR EXQUISITE APPOINTMENTS. LUXURIOUS COOKING UTENSILS-THE KITCHEN OF THE CAFE SAVARINA-COOKING BY STEAM.

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The most ideal kitchen I ever saw was at Fecamp's, famed for its Benedictine and Benedictines of blessed memory. We had stopped over to take another diligence. The waitingroom, which was also dining-room, was too reminiscent of dinners past and dinners to come to be tolerable. So, impelled by the natural kitchen there were separate charcoal fires for instinct after a more agreeable environment, I reached the kitchen.

The change from the grim, weary waitingroom to this airy, spacious kitchen, filled with gayety and color, had the enchantment of a juices gloriously. The spit and the upright transformation scene. The three large French grate make the one luxury that private kitchwindows were vine-wreathed. The range was framed in with blue Scripture tiles, and a spit strung with fowls cheerily spun before an open fire. An annex to the range, also framed in with blue tiles, was filled with holes, each requiring its own charcoal flame and to be used as the service pressed.

AGAINST THE WALL and over doors and in panels hung copper pots and pans arranged with as much skill as if they were trophies of arms, and burnished to the last degree of brilliancy. Long-handled frying pans like unstrung banjos were graded down to baby pans for a single egg without a missing link, and copper measures in like manner seemed to go off toward a vanishing point. Many of these were beautifully wrought with incised ornament. I will not attempt to describe the personal attractions of the kitchen, the rotund hostess who was cook, nor the wit and good fellowships which evidently made the kitchen a rival of the wine-room, for we are about more serious business. The Norman kitchens of the humbler sort with which I became familiar were all arranged with reference to form and color, due presumably to the fact that they were largely living rooms, and will always be remembered as among the most ar- this way insures accuracy.

"Perfect ventilation," said Mr. George Post. the architect, who is regarded as an authority on the subject of kitchens, "is the first consideration in a kitchen; then come light and the possibilities of perfect cleanliness." MR. VANDERBILT'S RITCHEN.

tistic rooms I have ever seen.

To get these in a crowded city block and half buried in the earth, is, in the nature of things, was the first of the evolutionary series of kitchens which Mr. Post inaugurated. It is a large room, 33x16. There are three windows on 57th | kitchen. street, and these are peculiarly constructed to receive the light and air on which the architect insists. A bronze grating only is seen from the air, yet will prevent the passers-by from look-ing in to see what the Vanderbilts are going to have for dinner, for there are people who en-tertain that sort of curiosity. Another pro-vision prevents them from smelling the dishes. VENTILATION.

This inheres in the more essential ventilation. The range is situated in the remote corner of the room in order to be near the main ventilating shaft of the house. An immense hood is ments inaccessible to air and light. suspended above, which connects with the shaft, and gathering all the steam and odors, passes it through and, without losing a single smell,

is in fact two ranges separated by a partition. These are built out from the wall and behind | perishable articles kept. are two horizontal boilers. Attached at one end is the charcoal broiler, at the other is the roaster, which consists of a low grate with a call some of the kitchens in the handsomer Mr. Frederick Remington, artist and writer, attached to a jack moved by clockwork and a semicircular Dutch oven. Of course for ordinary occasions but one range is used.

At this end of the room the cook moves, a cherry table at his right hand, his copper treasures in a pot closet at his left, the dresser at his back. This dresser has no back except the enameled tiles of the wall. This, too, is a consideration in a city, which, lacking the necessary supply of Croton water, is overstocked with Croton bugs, insects which show an unreasonable disposition to colonize in the seams of dressers, that they pry open for that pur-THE EITCHEN MAID.

At the other end of the room the kitchen maid moves. At one side is the table at which she prepares her vegetables, and opposite the porcelain-lined sink and draining table, where they are washed. This sink is provided with a grease trap, a clever arrangement by which the grease is chilled and adheres until it can be removed, and the stoppage of pipes thereby pre-vented. In front of the windows is a long table for the preparation of entrees, and beneath this are closed compartments. Near by is the chopping block, its architecture that of the butcher's block. The pastry shares a cooler room, which the scullery maids also occupy. I have been specific because this kitchen has

been thoughtfully considered, and while it has what is needed, has only what is needed. The floor is laid in red and gray encaustic tiles, the walls are lined with cream enameled tiles, and there is no reason here, as Mr. Post suggests, why a hose should not play without detriment to anything but dirt.

A CHEF'S TEMPLE.

Mr. W. K. Vanderbilt's chef has had such renown that the temple in which he moves and the altar at which he officiates must be of interest. Both are worth his cost to import, and worthy his talents. Mr. Vanderbilt's kitchen is very beautiful to the eye. The purity of marble, the luster of tiles and the gleam of metal are what one sees. The floor is of marble, the shelves, the tables, the sinks, all the things that are rarely moved, are of marble and cut with the precision of jewels. The walls are linen with cream enameled tiles, and all the angles are covered with brass moldings. Where these meet the doors and windows, they are covered with these metal moldings dispensing even with wooden trimming. The ceil-ing is made of white enameled tiles set in cement. But one does not imperil the head of a \$10,000 cook with a loosely-set brick, so each tile is also secured with raised metal bolts.

Accenting all this gleam of white and metal | uine silk woof. is the large double range. It is similar to that already described, and set in one corner under with directory revers and do not fasten, but a large semi-circular hood enriched with embossed copper orna nents, and swung from iron bars wrought in spirals and foliations. hood, the purpose of which has been already described, is so powerful an agent in carrying off the odor and greasy steam that it will waft from the hand a newspaper held under it. THE COORING UTENSILS

are in keeping with all this splendor. They have been copied from special pieces in the the dress. Cluny and other museums. Luxurious cooking utensils are indeed the thing of the moment, and a wedding present not disdained is a set of copper silver lined such as are now displayed among gems and gold at the jewelers. Leading from the kitchen to the butler's pan-

try are spiral stairs entirely enclosed in glass to shut out possible odor, yet retain the light, And this is so successfully done that although the kitchen is directly below the dining-room and butler's pantry, nothing disagreeble makes its way aloft. CLEANED BY HOSE.

drains and hose outlet in the center of the marble floor, for it is by a hose which may play fearlessly in any part of the room that the kitchen is kept clean. Connected with the in the material. One of chocolate with broad kitchen, and built under the sidewalk, is a series of vaults. These are for ice, meat, vegetables, milk and eggs, and are built in three sections of hollow masonry, that they may kept free from damp and insure perfect ventilation. The heavier articles, such as ice and meat, are let in through the sidewalk with derrick and

hoist, which relieves the kitchen of a good deal of unpleasantness, as every housekeeper may THE VERY LATEST thing in kitchens is that of the cafe Savarina, in dagger completely covered with French bril- and going to the front of the buck gave him the fine new building of the Equitable Insur- liants. ance company, in lower Broadway. Although | Small Capes of shot velvet trimmed with

it is intended to feed 3,000 people between noon and 3 o'clock, its methods, appliances, and per-fect organization present hints to people who dine in more moderate numbers. Through the courtesy of Mr. Dolver, the superintendent, I was allowed to inspect it just before the fray It is a large open apartment at the top of the

house, reached by elevators. The floor is laid with white encaustic tiles, and the walls are ceiled and lined with lustrous white enameled tiles. Three ranges are built out in the floor, and the forty-two cooks skirmish on all sides This position of the range is approved in some private houses, as it gives the cook greater com-mand of her resources. Between these ranges were two long tables and in the center of each was a sunken square of tin or zinc perforated with holes. In these basins stood tin handle-less pails and around them water surged and portance to advertisers.

spluttered. These were the steam tables, and | Written for THE EVENING STAR. in them all the cocking that requires no browning or crust is done.

steam off and on. At a small but fashionable

COOKING BY STEAM. The question of fuel is now a very open one. In this kitchen every thing that can be done by steam is done, and as steam is required for the other purposes of the building, the fuel is practically saved, not to speak of the lack of wear and tear in merely turning the wrist to let the

recalled an engagement to go that afternoon to see some cooking done by electricity. Press a button and the pot boils. FOR BROILING AND BAKING. But steam will not broil, bake, or roast; this handicaps it greatly for private use. In this broiling. A large brick oven in the center of the room for the pastry with gas-lighted peep holes for the pastry cook, and a tremendo upright grate with three tiers of spits before which fowls were now spinning and shedding eas, however unpretentious, should try to afford. One need not be so fastidious as the old Norman epicures who required their fowls to be reasted before apple-tree logs, but the kiss of the flames is certainly transforming and idealizes even the pig, as we have been delightfully told. Every piece of furniture in the kitchen has a special definite purpose to fulfill. The brawny butchers occupy one corner with their battle

axes. The pastry cooks practice the fine arts on their own area, the men cunning with knives keep within their own barriers. Everything is calculated to save space and time. Above each range are horizontal bars from which hang the long-handled copper pans rapidity and ease of the tumbler in the circus. To the waiter, always in anguish between the wrath of the hungry man and the boot toe of the cook, the kitchen at the top of the house is a saving grace. He never, by any chance, can encounter the cook, and leaning against the dumb waiter while his viands descend, gets a few seconds to brace himself up to meet the thundering brow of his client in the brilliant restaurant beyond. The disadvantage, on the other hand, is that any inaccuracy in filling the order cannot be ascertained for some time, but THE TOP FLOOR.

Something was said last week of the movement to rescue the top floor. This goes hand in hand with private elevators. There is also another movement toward elevating the kitchen dynamically. One of the most novel of the private is that of Dr. Morton on 55th west. All the household offices are on difficult. Mr. Cornelius Vanderbilt's kitchen front. Midway is the laundry with tiled floor and wainscoting; connecting with it is the servants' sitting-room, and opening into it the THIS IS A NOBLE ROOM,

with windows that catch the first rays of the street; within this are shelving panes of glass morning sun and the last rays of his benign which may be opened so as to freely admit the majesty, and command the distant prospect right and left. One may well envy the cook her private dominion. Mrs. Morton, with more practical mind, tells me that the saving of gas bills is of consideration. There is, also, a considerable saving of time, 2s the ashman, the ragman, the peddlers of all wares, soon discover that there is neither pleasure nor profit in the area. The humanitarian aspect of this elevated kitchen is worth notice when one considers the army of servants that spend their lives in base-

Mrs. Morton says that by organizing her household carefully, less, not more, servants are required. A great lift is used at stated interout of the house. This is an immense advantage, as every one living in city houses around which linger the scent of perpetual dinners and a servants' stairway is screened off by a pretty arrangement of spindles. The clothes are dried on top of the house and in a cold room above the kitchen meats are hung and

SMALL KITCHENS. It is not a misapplication of an adjective to but calculated to a nicety. In fact, except when there is a staff of servants, it is a mistake to have a large kitchen. It wastes the time and takes the strength of the cook to cover more space than is required. As these kitchens are placed in the least advantageous parts of the house, every care is taken to give them all the light and air possible. The floors are tiled. The walls are lined with enamel tiles, usually white, but sometimes made gayer with colored tiles, blue or pink. The sinks are porcelain lined and the faucets silver-plated. The cupboards and dressers are in light natural woods and the glass unspotted. The cook feels as if she is in a jewel-box or is a precious article enshrined in a cabinet, and the probabilities are that she strives to keep her situation. MARY GAY HUMPHREYS.

FASHION'S FREAKS.

TIGHT COAT SLEEVES are out of fashion. VERY LARGE meshed net is used for entire

THE USE OF BROCADE for trimming dresses of plain material is increasing. CREPE DE CHINE will be largely used for afternoon watering-place gowns.

BLACK IS NOW stylishly worn with any color, from the palest to the deepest. Moine Ribbon is as much in favor upon lace

gowns as it was last summer. LILAC AND WISTERIA will be favorite flowers for ornamenting summer lace bonnets.

EVEN EXTREMISTS look askant at the handkerchief of white silk with its ruffle of black valenciennes-a freak of fashion not destined to a

HANDSOME TEA GOWNS are made of two shades of the same material, one embroidered

CLOTH POWDERED with silk applique in

"SILE CHALLI" is a novelty. It is a beautiful

with directory revers and do not fasten, but may be drawn well over the chest. THE COMBINATION of blue and black is now so much in favor as to seriously threaten the seemed oblivious of the cause of this sudden

long supremacy of green. Many of the new silk wraps have a boa of trimmed with fine cut jet.

A FEATURE in skirt trimming this spring are of copper, with wrought-iron handles, is the straight panel hanging loose over one around and around in a circle, man and horse many of them ornamented, and some of them side and of a stuff entirely different from the most ludicrous sight imaginable outside of

MIDSUMMER Gowns of white crepon, draped in most æsthetic fashion over yellow, bine or pink silk, will be very much worn at seaside resorts.

THE SASH is de riqueur with Worth, and his latest caprice is the putting of a narrow rib-hon beltwise around all waists, even those fast-flying buck, and with greater speed and bon beltwise around all waists, even those with sharp points. THE Tosca or Hercules net is the prettest

Before referring to another attachment of it must be mounted on black moire or surah this kitchen, allusion should be made to the and ribbon run. Baby ribbon should be used, by the concussion of the discharge so close to and ribbon run. Baby ribbon should be used, by the concussion of the discharge so close to the land ribbon run. Baby ribbon should be used, by the concussion of the discharge so close to the land ribbon run. and each row may be finished by a tiny rosette. Wool Grenadines now come straight from

the loom with ribbon borders of velvet woven bands of black velvet is very stylish. THE SOMBER darkness of the black grenadine is now lighted up by Pompadour stripes, in which may be seen every shade of pink from

the delicate tint of the sea-shell to the deepest old rose. The beauty of this material is endation of silk or satin.

gold fringe and marabout feathers are worn a good deal with carriage and afternoon toilets.

SUPERB SPRAYS of French roses and other lovely blossoms and leaves, velvet, talle, net sion, in answer to which he said: and ribbons in endless variety are all used for

handsome bonnets and hats. The difference between a loose vague boast and an affidavit giving exact figures is a wide one and of great significance to a person with one and of great significance to a person The difference between a loose vague wide one, and of great significance to a person interested in the statement. THE STAR swears to its circulation. This is a point of great im-

HOW TO RIDE.

The Disadvantages of the English Jockey Style of Horsemanship.

SPURS AND SHORT STIRRUPS-WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A HORSE SHIES-HOW THE AMERICAN SOLDIERS RIDE-AN INCIDENT OF THE PLAINS-AN ENGLISH HUNTER AND HIS AMERICAN GUIDE.

down-town restaurant all the cooking is done by gas. And while talking with Mr. Post, he The serious and nearly fatal accident which befel an Englishman recently while riding in Central park serves to "point a moral, to adorn a tale," and furnishes another strong argument against riding in the English short-stirrup jockey style. The man was esteemed an excellent rider in the English style, but his horse, in fright plunging suddenly to one side, the rider "lost his stirrups," and to save himself he clung with his feet to his mount, and in so doing drove the spurs into his sides and goaded him to greater desperation. Under these circumstances it became impossible to control the agonized brute with the rein, and in his headlong dash he collided with a wagon and threw his rider violently to the ground. Ha he been taught to ride with the long stirra; and to use the knee pressure the loss of his footing in the stirrups would not have been a serious matter, as, in the proper way of riding, you are not so dependent upon the stirrups for safety, for you maintain your seat in an emergency by pressing the knees with greater than ordinary force to the sides of the horse, and, having this principle thoroughly instilled, you never cling with your feet and unconsciously foul the horse with the spurs.

HORSEMEN OF THE ENGLISH STYLE have quite enough to contend with in sitting which the nimble cooks manipulate with the their horses when nothing out of the ordinary routine occurs, and when a sudden bound of their mounts causes the loss of the stirrups they almost invariably are thrown. From their habit of riding-short stirrups and toes turned outward, rendering the knecs useless-they involuntary cling with the feet when in trouble and augment the difficulties by planting the spurs into the sides of the frightened animals nd holding them there until dumped off at the side of the road. And the English style of riding can be of no possible service to an uestrienne when in trouble with her mount. The New York Tribune in commenting upon the distressing mishaps to riders in Central park says editorially, "a whip may be a convenience at times, but there is no excuse for

the spur.' This is all wrong. By the use of the whip for the horse that should be punished, you may excite a dozen spirited animals near you, and if your own mount is a nervous one the mere drawing of the whip may cause him to shy seriously. The spurs are the only things to use for the punishment of a horse in riding. You press them to both sides at the same instant. The movement is unseen by your mount or other horses in the company, and it is a sure corrective without causing fright. Your horse does not see, but feels and heeds it. With the spurs you can ride high-bred, spirited horses right over a field battery in full action, when should you attempt it with whips they would certainly fail you by "shying off."

THE ONLY THING. The spurs are the only things to ride with, but men must know how to ride to use them with safety. But the saddle must be the narrow tree and seat, with stirrups hung about midway between bow and cantle and made long enough to compel you to extend the legs to nearly their full length and to slightly depress the toes, and you should ride with the feet held parallel with the body of the horse; then there is no fear that you will foul your horse with the spurs should you let your feet slip from the stirrups. At the sudden springing of our mount, causing you to lose your stirrups, ou will naturally and involuntarily press your knees still more firmly to his sides with your feet extended downward instead of drawing your heels up against the already frightened horse and thus unconsciously goading him with the spurs.

A CASE IN POINT. who spent some time last year in our cavalry in Arizona, says in the April Century: "One naked savage got up suddenly from behind a that quicker than thought every animal made a violent plunge to one side. No one of the trained riders seemed to mind this unlookedfor movement in the least beyond displaying a gleam of grinning ivories. I am inclined to think that it would have let daylight upon some of the 'English hunting seats' one sees in Central park."

HUNTING ELK. While hunting in the North Park, Colorado, during an October a good many years ago, my guide and I saw at a distance two horsemen in hot pursuit of a small band of elk, in which was a huge buck, a doe and two spring fawns, As the band was running in the direction of the route we were pursuing, we put spurs to our horses and dashed on to intercept and, if possible, turn them back toward their pursuers, whom we thought to be hunters from our own camp. But we only succeeded in confusing and separating them, and in suddenly losing sight of the doe and fawns. The powerfully antiered stag seemed not so fleet as the others, or else for a time he delayed his movements to attract attention from his family, and we finally succeeded in turning him at a right angle to his former course. This slight delay on his part, without bringing us near enough to fire with any hope of hitting, was enough to give the other eager hunters an advantage over the majestic beast, but, as at full speed they drew near, we saw they were strangers—one an Englishman from all outward signs of corduroys and toggery, and the other his guide, a plainsman. The latter kept in the run slightly to the rear of the Englishman, so as to instruct him in taking advantage of the ground and make the "cut-offs" that would gain distance. and also for the purpose of telling him when near enough to shoot. (To the uninitiated it is difficult to judge distances on the plains.) Besides Flounces, pinked out ruchings are much used in the trimming of dresses of summer fabrics.

Soon after passing us the guide shouted to the Englishman, "Halt, dismoint, and fire! You're near enough!" At this the latter suddenly pulled Some of the New big buttons have Watteau with a plains rig, including the terrible Mexirein, and, being mounted on a plains horse, figures delicately painted upon china, and set can bridle, the steed halted as suddenly as though shot through the head, and the rider equally as suddenly, shot up out of the saddle wreaths and bouquets is a new and very hand- astride of his saddle again, but in fearful dislike a rubber ball. Fortunately he came down order. He had

"LOST HIS STIRRUPS." fine material, as light as veiling, but with a gen- and was distressingly confused, and to make matters worse, in his dire extremity he drew both heels against the flanks of the unsuspecting horse, and, of course, drove the spurs into him, which sent the now newly aroused courser and mad start, and, clinging only closer and harder, he doubled his body forward and em-Chantilly lace down the front and are heavily braced the pommel of his saddle with both arms, in the execution of which movement he grasped one side of the rein much shorter than the other, causing the infuriated beast to dash a circus ring!

WHAT THE GUIDE DID. The Englishman's guide, without knowing the cause of this deviation from his well-arranged program, halted but an instant, and then, true to his instincts and training, turned the cutting off of the angle his game had made soon brought himself within the range of his Winchester magazine rifle. Halting suddenly, material possible for a summer gown—either for street or evening wear. If black, of course over the left arm and fired directly over the his head, reared upon his hind feet high in the air, and in the twinkling of an eye executed a complete "about face" before touching his front feet again to the ground. But his rider sat the horse as though he had grown out of his back, never for an instant taking his eyes faced to the rear was again halted by one powerful twist of the rein with the left hand. the hunter, holding his smoking rifle in the right, still gazed over his shoulder in the direchanced when made up over an old rose foun- it had been rehearsed for months for exhibition of his shot. It was magnificently done! If tion it could not have been improved. But the New Directory Hars have long scarf ends hunter gazed but a moment. Wheeling his caught together in front with a large, flashing

the coup de grace with a shot in the head. EXPLANATIONS. In an incredible short time the guide came back to the luckless Briton, who then stood on New Lyons Gauzes come in lovely shades of the ground holding his much-spurred charger. evening colors with a pattern of woven silk braid running in vermicelli designs all over the mount had been made, so intent were we in watching the captivating scene just described. The plainsman, in his untutored tongue, asked the Englishman the cause of his sudden digres-

"Aw, me man, I lost me stirrups, you know by the sudden halt of this—beast!" When the plamsman further asked: "Well, gether, you know; but merely slipped me foot from it, you know; and then this scrub of a horse went kicking around in a circle till I thought I should be dashed to pieces, you know! What's the sense of a horse halting in

that beastly manner, anyhow, and then go plunging around as though he never had a sad-dle on his back before?"

The guide, not a little stung at this imputation against his fine hunter, said: "He's as good a saddle-horse as thar is in the territory of Col orado, but you don't understand his trainin'. When you halt him, he HALTS!"

After further accusations and explanations between the two, I asked the Englishman's guide as to his own exhibition of equestrianism and markmanship which we had just witnessed. With the greatest indifference he said: "Well, you see I have lately bin shootin' a leetle too much over my critter's head, instid of turnin broadside to my game, and I reckon as how I've stunned him a leetle about the yeers."

He had no boasts to make for the finest ex-

hibition of horsemanship, and that in real every day life, I had ever seen. I envied the man his skill in the saddle. We have no apologies to make for our Ameri-

can way of riding. West Point teaches it to our army cadets, and our army officers taught there. than whom there are no better riders in the world, teach it to our cavalry, and our cavalry is second to none and has never been rated as excelled by any riders. Our citizens will find this way of riding the best for all purposes, whether for pleasure, exhibition or bu

THE EASTER EGG.

Pagan Myths and Customs Sald to Have Given Rise to Egg-Rolling.

To the Editor of THE EVENING STAR:

The egg myth has given expression to three different underlying ideas: That which is suggested in the egg decorations of Greek architecture, and perhaps in the egg symbols ornathe cosmical egg, symbolic of the creation of rural visit. the universe, a myth common to China, India, Egypt, Greece and parts of our own country; and, finally, the solar egg, the latter an idea as widely diffused as the preceding. While the cosmical egg is the conception of a highly developed intellect, the solar egg, in which the sun is simply and actually regarded as an egg laid by the sky, which is also conceived of as a great bird, is an idea readily grasped by the simplest minds, and as readily accepted as

With the solar egg is associated an immense cycle of stories throughout the known world, of which our Jack the Giant Killer, who steals the hen which lays the golden sun egg, is a fair type. This story of the different adventures of heroes to release the sun egg from the clutches of the ogre night in some one of its many forms is familiar to us all.

Another phase of solar egg is that in which the sun, having lain hid during the winter months, as in the far north, or lost its usual heat, as in our own climate, returns again in strength and health in the spring to vivify the earth and bring life out of death with its warmth-giving rays.

THE EASTER EGG. It is to this department of the solar egg myth that belongs our Easter egg, reaching far back into antiquity, and it is probable that in commemoration of the resurrection of the sun out of its winter nest the egg festival of Easter was celebrated by the northern nations. The coloring of the egg is also in analogy to the bright color of the sun, and rolling of the egg down the green banks only a repetition of what the great solar egg was supposed to do on its reappearance, rolling over the firmament above us on the return of spring. There are many analogous ceremonies of the rolling of hoops of fire and the like at this very period which point to the probability of the theory. And a peantiful one it is, although of heathen origin; a symbol which the Latin church has sanctified in a service for the blessing of eggs in a ritual of Pope Paul the V, in which the benediction prayer is: "Bless, O Lord, we beseech Thee, this Thy creature of eggs that it may become a wholesome sustenance of Thy faithful servants, eating it in thankfulness to Thee, on account of the resurrection of our Lord."

This ritual is in itself evidence that the church merely recognized its own appearance; that its only defense was to appropriate the Easter egg to itself as a symbol of the resurrection of our Lord by baptizing it, as it were, into the Christian re-

There is also an old miracle play in which the disciples at Emmans are represented as eating up the Easter eggs, showing how quickly it adapted itself to the new dress. it adapted itself to the new dress.

In England the eggs were called pace-eggs, corruption from pascha, the Latin form of the word passover-our Easter. THE EGG BUSH.

I will not attempt to give you an account of the Easter egg customs, for their name is legion, but will only mention one which I have seen in New England, curious because the only other instance I know of is in Ireland; it s the egg bush, which is a bush of any kind decorated with blown eggs, the egg being passed over the end of the twig through one of the holes by which it is blown and left on the bush. Colored eggs and bits of rag are also used. The bush is decorated about the middle of Lent. You will find mention of a similar bush in Miss McLean's Cape Cod Folks.

THE FESTIVAL. Now for the goddess Easter, or Oastera, who has given her name to the season and to the eggs. Her festival occurred in April. Probably her sacred animal—that which was offered o her-was the hare. It has been supposed that eggs were offered her, and hence the custom. But we have no evidence of any such offering, and it is even difficult to ascertain what was her precise character. It is much more likely that the Eostera feast fell in with some such circumstances. regular sun god feast at the beginning of spring, and that the egg. which would in such a case have been a suggestive and appropriate offering, has thus come to be associated her name, and, singularly enough, with the hare, for as a child in Germany I have been 6. In sending invitations always include the sent out to look for the Easter egg in the hare's nest. I have not bothered you with authorities and reasons, bidding those who are curious in these matters to look into the authorities for the dry bones, which I have tried to articulate for you.

A Mourning Boudoir. From the Upholsterer.

"Come upstairs until I show you my room. It has all been done over in the neatest fashion, and is too sweet for anything," said a fashionable widow to our sweet girl reporter.

The handsome leader of fashion, who had been widowed for a year or so, led the way to a large room on the second floor. The door was thrown open, and the reporter took one glimpse and then started back. The place at first sight looked like the inside of a hearse.

pillow-shams were of black satin merveilleux, embroidered in black velvet applique with silver thread, the monogram of the widow

1. They may do as they prefer to the widow silver thread, the monogram of the widow silver thread. being worked in silver on the center of both spread and shams. The toilet table and little escritoire were draped in the same manner, and at the windows were thin curtains of the widow for an ecktie is considered vulgar.

2. Iney may do as they prefer.

5. If a morning wedding white scarfs, if an evening wedding white lawn neckties. White satin or silk for a necktie is considered vulgar.

6. Plain shirt fronts by all means. and at the windows were thin curtains of black of decoration for a gentleman's linen.

liberty silk against white lace. "Look here," said the pretty widow, and she threw back the bed-covers, displaying sheets of black silk hemstitched in white, and black silk slips on the pillows.

tinued. "I wear black silk underclothes, black satin corsets and a black silk petticoat, and l even have my gowns lined with black. My friends tell me they would sleep as comfortable in a coffin as in my bed, but I find it a delight-"And do you know," she continued, "a friend, who has just been made a widow, is having a room fitted like mine, only with black jet mon-

ograms. A great many English women who are not in mourning have black rooms, and that is where I got my idea." Then she led the way into the boudoir all furnished in vivid yellow, even to the two canaries that piped in their golden cages. "Yellow is the next color to black, you know," she explained, "and then my husband was a Baltimorean, and I have the oriole col-

Miss Bessie's Catch. One morning when spring was in her teens, A morn to a poet's wishing, All tinted in delicate grays and greens, Miss Bessie and I went fishing. in my rough-and-tumble clothes, With my face at the sunshine's mercy.

ors, black and yellow, too, you see.'

She with her hat tipped down to her nose, And her nose tipped vice versa. I with my rod, my reel, and my hooks, And a hamper for luncheon recesses She with the bait of her comely looks. And the seine of her golden tresses.

So we sat down in the shade of a dyke, Where the white pond liles teeter, And I went to fishing like quaint old Ike, And she like Simon Peter. All day I lay in the light of her eyes, And dreamly watched and waited; But the fish were cunning and wouldn't rise, And the baiter alone was baited.

So when the time for departure came, My bag was as flat as a flounder; But Bessie had neatly hooked her game-A hundred and eighty pounder.

—ATTRIBUTED TO JOHN BRIGHT Written for THE EVENING STAR. ETIQUETTE AND MANNERS.

What to do and What Not to do in Society.

ADVICE ABOUT LITTLE THINGS WORTH KNOWING-THE ETIQUETTE OF WEDDINGS-SENDING AN-NOUNCEMENTS - FLOWERS FOR THE BRIDE-WHAT THE GROOM SHOULD WEAR-TITLES. The following questions for answer have been elected for this week:

Two gentlemen differ as to the propriety of wearing patent-leather shoes during the daytime. Please state if it is good form to do so. Formerly patent-leather shoes were consid-

ered in questionable taste at any time. Gentlemen of nice instincts dislike all excessively but a broad generalization, which we hope is polished surfaces, such as glossy cloth, over- not "vague," may be made as follows: As a polished surfaces, such as glossy cloth, overpressed hats or highly glazed linen. But recently patent leather has become much used for evening wear. Perhaps the fact that Lord Coleridge in his recent visit to this country always wore patent leather on dress occasions may have had something to do with the fashionable revival of this material. But to our mind nothing is so suitable for evening dress as shoes of fine calf skin or morocco. The latter is espe-cially quiet and elegant. For the promenade nothing is in such good taste as shoes of fine calf skin. But in the country patent leather is convenient. Dust, dewor the friction of grass, either of which soon render calf skin unpresenta-ble, has no hurtful effect on patent leather; dust is easily brushed off, moisture does not affect the polish, and the friction of the grass in a ramble through a meadow really improves appearance of the leather. With patent leather in the country one never needs the bootmenting the statues of certain eastern deities; black, and this adds much to one's comfort on a Is it proper for a lady to bow or speak first to a gen-tleman of her acquaintance in passing on the street, or should he?

The lady should always speak first, as we have recognize an acquaintance or not, as she may prefer.

1. If a young gentleman should escort a lady home from an evening entertainment should the lady thank him? if so, in what manner.
2. How should a lady congratulate her sister and brother-in-law upon their marriage? 1. Of course the lady should thank him. It would be exceedingly ill-bred not to do so. accounting for the various phases of the sun's is underbred to accept any service or any kind-diurnal and annual motion. is underbred to accept any service or any kind-ness without acknowledging it by thanks. The Author of "Don't." 2. If a lady does not know how to congrat-

ulate her sister or any member of her family upon her marriage, we doubt if any instruc-tions would aid her. Put your arms around your sister's neck, kiss her and wish her much happiness. Shake hands with your brother-inlaw and wish him much happiness. CHURCH WEDDINGS.

CHURCH WEDDINGS.

1. In case of a church wedding where there is a maid of honor, bridesmaids and groomsman, how does the bridal party go from the house and how advance to the sitar?

2. When it is desired to exclude all but invited guests from the church is it the custom to issue cards to be presented at the door, and if so how should they read? Or, if not, what course is adopted?

3. Should more than one invitation be sent to a family where there are sons and daughters in society?

4. Which is the better form of address, Mr. John Smith and wife, or Mr. and Mrs. John Smith?

The bridal party should leave the bouse

1. The bridal party should leave the house in the following order: In the first carriage, the bride and her father; in carriages that fol low, the bridesmaids. Members of the family usually precede the bridal party to the church At the church the ushers head the bridal party to the altar; the bridesmaids usually next, and then the maids of honor, but commonly there are not both bridesmaids and maids of honor. Then comes the bride upon the arm of her father or elder relative. The natural place of the maid or maids of honor, if there are also bridesmaids, would be after the bride, but individual taste and preferences govern these details, very few marriages being in all particulars exactly alike. The groom and best man enter from the vestry and stand at the altar, the groom in readiness to receive the bride from her father's hand. The bridesmaids take their place at the side of the bride, and the maids of honor behind her. After the ceremony the bride and groom lead the proces-

2. If it is desired to exclude all but invited guests cards of admission must be issued. Print on the card the name of the church and date and hour of ceremony. 3. For each married couple in a family one invitation may be sent. member of the family should receive an invi-

Will you kindly favor me with the benefit of your 1. I am about to be married and shall send announce-

1. I am about to be married and shall send announcements out to my friends whom I hope will call upon me, but being engaged in a business which makes my evenings at home very uncertain, my wife, who is a perfect stranger, will have to entertain. How ought the announcement to be worded—should it be "At Home" or "Residence?"

2. Knowing more than one person in a family, should I send an announcement to each person or to the head of the house only? And in case of ladies whose mothers I am not acquainted with, to whom should I send?

3. How soon after receiving these calls should we return them?

4. If a person on whom you called gave a large reception, to which every Tom, Dick, and Harry was invited, and failed to invite you, would you assume that he desired to cease the acquaintance?

5. I was censured a few evenings ago, after a public dinner, because I used my fingers in eating Saratoga chips, which appeared to me to be the only natural mode of eating them. Was I wrong?

6. Referring again to the subject of the announcements, What is done in the case of business relations? I am not acquainted with the wives of many of my associates. Should I address to the gentleman only?

1. The circumstances you mention should not

1. The circumstances you mention should not alter the form of the invitation. You issue your cards "At Home," giving place and time, and this is all. 2. To each adult person (counting married couples as one). It would be proper and graceful to include the mothers of the ladies under

4. It would bear that interpretation, unless the omission was by accident. 5. Saratoga chips can be eaten with the fingers in the same way that biscuit or cakes are eaten. wives of married men, whether you know them

3. About two weeks.

1. At an evening marriage at the church, if the bride is not to be given away, is it customary for the bride to walk in with the groom or groomsman?

2. There are two bridesmaids and two groomsmen. Is it customary for the ladies to stand on one side and the gentlemen on the other, or should the couples not be separated? be separated?

3. What are the most fashionable flowers for the bride and bridesmaids?

4. Is it fashionable for the groom and ushers to wear 5. What kind of neckties should the groom and ush-

MORE ABOUT WEDDINGS. 1. The bride should not, according to present social customs, walk with the groom to the altar. If she is not to be given away she must

so in keeping with my crape gown. I didn't like it at first, but I do not believe I could sleep in colors again."

The room was furnished with a handsome The room was furnished with a handsome groom stands.

3. Lilies of the valley, white roses, white

1. What are the duties of an usher at a large wedding. ceremony in a church, and reception at the house afterward. Is there a prescribed style of dress for an usher?
2. I understand that it is expected of a bridegroom to pay for the gloves and necktie of the "best man."
Is this the usual custom? If so, who makes the

THE USHERS.

bridal party to the altar, and at the house to introduce friends to the bridal pair and per-form generally the duties of a master of ceremonies. In dress an usher does not differ from other gentlemen, but a slip of white ribbon may be worn in the buttonhole of his coat as an indication of his office. 2. The bridegroom generally gives the best man a scarf, and sometimes a scarf pin accompanies it, but not gloves.

VISITING CARDS AGAIN. Permit me to set you right in regard to the custom of the service as to the using of titles on visiting cards

This is a custom as old as the army itself, and like many other customs, articles of war and regulations, is derived from the English army; very naturally, as the careful reader of the history of this country will readily appreciate.

the careful reader of the history of this country will readily appreciate.

2. You are quite vague in your description as to how a fork should be held. It is simply impossible to eat peas with the fork in the left hand, prongs down. I turn the fork prong upward in such a case, or transfer the fork to the right hand. I prefer the former method. If you can only convince respectable people of the vulgarity of braiding the fingers of the left hand around the handle of the fork, you would be doing a good service. It is a hopeless task, however, to teach people who are naturally vulgar the refinements; they don't want to learn how to do things right, and are egotistical enough to believe that their way is just as good as any other way. Very respectfully, &c.,

G. H. CROSSMAN, (late of the U. S. A.). 1. This does not controvert what we said about visiting cards. Equals and inferiors do

not, as you say, address officers below captain by their titles, but all of inferior rank do so. Officers, however, print their titles on their visiting cards in the manner described; that is,

they do if they do the right thing, which is as follows: "Captain John Smith, U. S. A." In signing his name or entering his name upon a hotel register, or any other kind of register, the officer then writes his name in this wise: "John Smith, Captain, U. S. A." The form upon a visiting card is always the form in which a man is addressed, and not the form of his signature. It is for this reason that it is proper always to put the prefix "Mr." upon a gentleman's visiting card, unless he has some

2. Our correspondent is right about eating peas, which cannot be done except with the prongs upward. He is also right about the desirability of convincing people that it is vulgar to braid, as he expresses it, the fingers around the handle of a fork. How to handle the fork can be shown clearly only by the aid of a series of drawings, showing right and wrong methods, rule carry the handle of the fork in the hollow of the hand, but when used in the right hand, with the prongs upward the handle may rest between the thumb and forefinger. THEATER TICKETS.

Is it improper for a young lady to permit a gentle-man to pay for her theater ticket! In smaller towns it is certainly a prevailing custom for young men to invite young women to go to the theater, paying for the tickets and accompanying them without chap-

If an invitation for the theater comes from the gentleman it is proper and customary for him to pay for the tickets, but when an invitation comes from a lady, which may sometimes happen, it is proper for her to furnish the tickets. 1. Is it very improper at a dinner to cut green salad such as lettuce or chicory? It seems to me almost

eccessary.

2. When cheese is served as a distinct course, how is t to be esten? Is it considered the proper thing here o put a piece on each bite of bread as the French do?

3. At a boarding-house or hotel should the gentlemen rise when a lady leaves the table? 1. Lettuce or chicory loses its quality by being cut. Therefore a knife should not be

used unless necessary.

2. Cheese is not usually served as a separate course, but if it is, it may be eaten, we suppose, repeatedly said. It is the lady's province to in the manner mentioned. But cheese is commonly served with or after coffee, accompanied by crackers. It is the one article that may be eaten with a knife, according to some authorities. A small piece is taken upon the end of a silver blade and neatly carried to the mouth. 3. This is hardly expected at a boarding-house or hotel table, but some boarding-house tables are of the nature of private tables, and

> The Little Things. I have often vaguely noticed How the lesser things of life, Overcome the great and mighty,

When its point projects in space, How with lightning speed it alters The devout, religious face. Then the skin of the banana, As it lies upon the curb, How, as if by sudden magic,

Without argument or strife.

Note the tack upon the carpet,

Manly pose it doth dis Mark how dignity and culture Throw their courtly manner by. As they lavish warm expressions On the merry little fly!

How the sanctity of worship Melts before the rapid breeze, And the violent explosion Of an unexpected sneeze! How the all-wise man of science Shakes in undisguised alarm, As some fond, aspiring mother

Lays her baby on his arm! How the normal, gracious nature Fumes with rage, nor counts the cost Of the damage done, while searching For a collar button lost.

And how many self-respecting,

Able-bodied, stalwart men Have been knocked completely over By a stylographic pen! Drake's Magazine, -LAURA W. SHELDON.

REWARDS OF CHESS-PLAYING. Even the Best Players Must Fall Back Upon Something Else for a Living.

In a large room at 8 Union square, where

the chess congress is holding its tournament, Each single adult twenty expert chess players spend from six to eight hours out of every twenty-four in earnest play. Hour after hour they sit looking steadily at the chess board studying intently the position and concentrating all their intellectual powers in each move. This they have done almost daily for one month, and will continue to do for another. When it is all over the winner of the greatest number of games will receive \$1,000, and the others proportionately less, until the five or six who rank lowest will get perhaps \$100 each. It is highly probable that the same amount of intellectual energy directed toward any other achievement would earn at least double these rewards. Nevertheless every player in the tournament would rather earn \$10 in a game of chess than \$20 in any other manner.

Many lovers of the game, especially in Eng-

land, have bewailed the fact that chess is such a very poor profession. Of the men who have devoted their lives to chess, but few have man-aged to make a comfortable living, and none has yet arrived at the degree of prosperity enjoyed by a professional base ball player of any reputation. Mr. Chas. Anthony, of Hereford, England, who is an ardent lover of the game, and who was the promoter of several tournaments, wrote a letter on this subject to the London Times a few years ago. In it he said: "At present the professional chess player is

not, as a rule, treated with as much considera-

tion as his talent, perseverance, and self-denial ought to secure for him. He is left more to his own resources than even a cricketer or a champion runner, and yet his triumphs are won by the intellect, and not by strength of lung or limb. It is certain that in the last few years there has sprung up throughout the world a number of professional chess players who have attained high distinction without deriving the slightest material advantage themselves. A great master may be even illustrious, while his family may be actually suffering in conse-quence. With regard to the objection that chess is not sufficiently developed to be looked upon as a regular profession, I would say that this is very much the fault of those who think so much, and who consequently withhold from it the aid which it is in their power to give. After the evidence of recent years, the frequent inter-as wear?

5. Should the groom and ushers wear plain or pique national tournaments, the development of chess literature in every form, the rapidly increasing number of clubs throughout Great Britain, to say nothing of the interest so widely felt and expressed in the forthcoming match between Messrs. Steinitz and Zukertort, it is simply impossible to deny the existence of a profession walk alone. Sometimes the bride is escorted of chess—a profession, that is to say, of men with the latest English, don't you know, and to the altar by her mother, this, of course, who prefer a certain intellectual, inexpensive, profession, that all who cultivate the art are bound in fairness and honor to see that such as are its mainstay—always ready to play, to instruct, to illustrate a theory, or to analyze a position—shall not be unduly handicapped in the struggle for existence. As it is, many of our professional chess players are compelled to engage in some other calling, which distracts the mind and more than doubles the mental strain. \* \* There is no luck in chess, and the utmost ability is scarcely rewarded at all. The whole question is whether something cannot be done to increase the number and value of the rewards to which successful players may Nearly all of the foreign players in the tour

nament receive small compensations from their local clubs to enable them to stay here for two months and perhaps longer. Otherwise most of them would be losers in the end. There is at present but one man who subsists entirely by chess playing, and that is Mr. Blackburne, of London. Others there are who, besides beof London. Others there are who, besides being professional chess players, furnish chess articles for the newspapers and magazines, or edit chess periodicals, but Mr. Blackburne is the only living player who plays and only plays. And even he has not yet amassed the fortune which the inventor of the "pigs in clover" undoubtedly realized from his ingenious toy. Mr. Blackburne possesses the ability to play many games simultaneously. He gives exhibitions of this sort of playing, as well as of blindfolded playing, in the London chess clubs. Besides this, he is also an excellent tournament by officers of the army:

1. Socially, in the army, there is no rank recognized below that of captain. It is considered very bad form for an officer to address another as lieutenant; it is always "Mister." Of course, in the presence of enlisted men, or on duty, he would be called lieutenant; otherwise, simply mister.

An officer below the rank of captain would properly register his name at a hotel and have his visiting cards printed, John Jones, U. S. A. If of the rank of captain or major, or colonel, as the case might be, John Jones, U. S. A.

But the other professional chess players all must fall back upon something else. Messrs. Steinitz, Mackenzie, Bird, Tchigorin and Weiss, Steinitz, Mackenzie, Bird, Tchigorin and Weiss, all brilliant chess players, devote most of their time to writing about chess, and even that brings but poor return. Mr. Mason said to the writer: "A man may devote his life to chess, and if he has a love for the game it is an easy step to take, but at the end of his life he will be no better off than when he began."

Chess has only a foothold in this country. The number of its devotees is still small, and though it may never acquire the popularity though it may never acquire the popularity which many other games have, the chess clubs look forward to a time when a man devoted to

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the game will receive a proper reward

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